

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DATE: April 27, 1982

SUBJECT: Request for Contractor Assistance to
Identify Disposal Locations for New Bedford Harbor Sediments

FROM: James D. Okun, Engineer
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TO: Deborah Dalton, Technical Liaison
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Superfund Records Center
SITE: New Bedford
BREAK: 4.1
OTHER: 46718

In Region I's evaluation of the New Bedford Harbor PCB problem, we have recognized that the removal of certain highly contaminated harbor sediments is likely to be part of any remedial action program. For the region to prepare meaningfully in proceedings (both judicial and administrative) directed at obtaining the funds for this effort, we must have a reasonably well developed plan of action. An essential part of this plan is to identify areas strategically close to contaminated harbor areas which can be used as disposal sites for these contaminated sediments. It is clearly outside of the scope of the region's resources to conduct the survey and studies needed to achieve this information. We are requesting that a contractor be made available to us to develop this information. As we envision that the case to clean the harbor will be a referral to Justice, we would like to begin this work quickly so it can be part of our case development package.

The goal of this study would be to identify areas whose characteristics were optimal for the disposal of PCB-contaminated sediments. This promises to be a complex task due to a larger than average number of complicating factors. Since there may ultimately be more contaminated sediment than totally secure areas to dispose of it, we envision a system whereby the most highly contaminated material could be disposed of in the most secure sites. We are increasing and refining our information about the extent of harbor contamination almost daily, and this is an ideal time to begin work on removal/disposal strategies.

CONCURRENCES

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